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# Brinkmanship or statesmanship?

By BADR-UD-DIN TYABJI

NO one who has known Mrs. Gandhi or followed her political career over the years will question her concern for the common man. In the political jargon of the day she has always been a socialist. Even when Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru headed the first Congress Government at the Centre in 1947, she was on the side of the socialists. She had done what she could then to persaude Panditji to throw in his lot with them, relying on his immense hold on the Indian electorate, to break the stranglehold that Sardar Vallabbhai Patel had on the party machinery, and the Sardar's use of it to make the Government's policies, and more important its practice, conform more to those of the right-wing elements in the country than those of a liberal, or as they say now-a-days, progressive persuasion.

Panditji did not follow her advise as he did not of many others, more experienced than her, at the time: and for twenty years and more thereafter, even after the Sardar died leaving the field entirely open to him, this encouraged an ambivalence between words and deeds that have continued since then to bedevil Indian politics. Hypocrisy throve; the use of double standards became almost the normal measuring method of our politicians within and without the country.

No one, again, who has even an inkling of what went on in the country, in the Central Cabinet, or the state of relations between the Prime Minister and her most senior colleagues in the Government, ever since Mrs. Gandhi became its head, will dispute that the situation was an untenable one; intolerable for her personally and parlous for the country. How they both managed to survive it for all this time is almost as inexplicable as the Indian rope-trick.

## *Credit ..*

Every one then, who has a heart, has eyes to see, and is not camatose to the misery that stares at him from all sides due to the poverty, improvidence and lethargy of the common man, will agree that this daulity, whether in the implementation of policies, in the primacy that the Prime Minister should have over the party bosses, or in the shifting support that they give to individual members of the Cabinet, should cease; and will rejoice that now matters have been brought to a pass that promises a solution.

True, one's rejoicing, unless one is only a blind partisan of the winning side, will be tempered with regret at the means employed to achieve the ends. However much one may persuade oneself that politics are politics and the laws of the jungle must prevail—that when a tigress is set upon by bisons, the tigress will use her fangs and claws, and that it is an outmoded Public School mentality that expects then, that the Queensburry rules should be observed, one cannot altogether brush aside the wish that in the year of the Mahatma's centenary more attention on the means employed to achieve the desired—indeed the essential—ends had been paid. One recalls the way in which the Mahatma had dealt with Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's attempt to stage a palace revolution.

Having done this, one must face facts; give credit where credit is due, and turn one's thoughts to the future. Undoubtedly credit has to be given to Indira Gandhi for having done in early years of power what her father, though he contemplated it often, could never over the years bring himself up to do. And when at least at the tail-end of his political life he did attempt it—through the Kamraj plan—he was no longer in a physical condition to carry through to its logical conclusion, and thus left the nation only with the legacy of slogan.

## *Bureaucratism*

Has Indira Gandhi now launched a loaded slogan on us that will explode like shrapnel and leave us all lacerated; if not maimed for life? Bank Nationalisation, as she herself has said, is only a means to an end. One end we have already seen—it has consolidated her position as Prime Minister. We have now a Prime Minister in control of our affairs who is of this generation and of this age in almost every sense of the term. Her personality is up-to-date. She synthesises the past with the present—her classical features with her modern hair-do and figure—is a wholly acceptable fashion.

No undergraduate would feel ambarrassed to take her out incognito to dinner. She has no in-built prejudices against and one on grounds of caste, colour religion or region. She did more than most leaders for the solace and safety of refugees — Muslim, Hindu and Sikh in the 1947 holucaust. Her friends have ranged from types as varied as Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, Sheikh Abdullah, Krishna Menon, and Mahatma Gandhi. She appreciates both ancient Indian art, and patronises modern Indian artists; likes Indian music as well as Western. In brief, she is the fine crystalization of the stuff from which the modern Indian nation has to be fashioned, if it is to take its place in the vanguard of contemporary civilisation. This is a tremendous asset. One becomes almost overwhelmingly — painfully — aware of it, if one looks around one at her possible supplanters.

One heaves a sigh of relief, but it is as yet only a negative relief. What are to be its positive contributions to our nationhood? The Prime Minister presiding over her own ever growing secretariat, duplicating and check-mating, or at least attempting to do so—the activities of almost every other Ministry of the Government of India, must be perfectly aware that more and more bureaucratism does not lighten the load on the back of the common man that she so earnestly seeks to remove but adds to it. The bureaucratism of the banks will not make them socialist-minded in their working; nor will policy directives to this effect issued either to the Governor of the Reserve Bank, or the State Governments.

We have seen all this before, and experienced its results, even when we had a Prime Minister who wielded far greater authority over Parliament and over the masses than she does now. As long as the proliferation of a dissatisfied, unqualified, and undisciplined bureaucracy continues and extends, the common man will get less service than before, not more, whatever the pattern-of-society determined upon by the Prime Minister may be. And as they showed clearly at the last elections 90 per cent of such a bureaucracy will become the active supporters of Right-wing communal parties like the Jan Sangh.

## *Criticism*

They may applaud Socialism to get jobs for themselves, but they will be barely civil, let alone social, to those-the common man — who have business to do with them. If an attempt at ideological infiltration into the Civil Service, and its control by the appointment of political Commissars within it are made, then we shall have the situation that prevails in our Legislatures reproduced in our administration. We have a good example of this already in Bengal. One would like that situation changed, not repeated elsewhere.

Nevertheless, the criticism levelled against some recent appointments to key administrative posts on the ground that those chosen had extreme left-wing leanings or were ex-communists seems to be misdirected. The criteria for such appointments should be the competency of the person selected for the job in question, not his political views, provided of course that the latter are not permitted to colour his official attitude, or influence his public actions. The separation of politics from the administration has to be strictly observed.

The sole recommendation for appointment in the public administration should be man's capacity to discharge efficiently the task entrusted to him. The employment of Civil Servants for carrying out political work for politicians in power, or those aspiring to it, is of course wholly unethical, and contrary to the principles of government on which our Parliamentary democracy rests but this should apply equally right-wing as well as left-votaries

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The main point here is that in order to deliver the goods that the Prime Minister promises to the people, she needs to streamline the administration, pension off the lame-ducks, get rid of redundant staff, and ensure that those who are employed receive emoluments that enable them to live in a way that is conformity with their position and responsibilities, in the light of the prevailing cost-of-living, and which they might reasonably expect to get from their general market-value. Unless the latter condition is fulfilled, their inherent dissatisfaction will tend to express itself in diverse forms.

Besides this, they will proliferate —doing less and less among more and more—just as masses tend to do, because of poverty and lack of any better alternative occupation. Family planning in another sense is as much needed in the administration, as it is in the huts and hovels of our cities and villages. Further, the public sector undertakings must be run on a productive basis, otherwise their socialist purpose is not served. They must be given autonomy and responsibility for managing their affairs so that they become really responsible individually as any private company, for their performance at the bar of public opinion —their shareholders. This calls for a thorough revision in their set-up, and methods of operation.

The administration is obviously the principal tool through which the Prime Minister can make herself really effective in the country, and redeem her promises to the people. She will have to take it firmly in hand forthwith. The neglect of nothing else will injure her cause more; attention to nothing else will yield her quicker or more widely appreciated results.

The second essential requirement is to drive home incessantly to the masses the need of carrying out basic reforms in their way-of life—eating—dressing—attention to public hygiene—the need of hard work, the value of punctuality and regularity in performing the duties that they undertake, in order to increase the national production. In this way alone can they attain a better standard-of-life and opportunities; earn higher emoluments for themselves; and ensure that both the public and the private sector undertakings function in a way that yields the maximum benefit to the nation, and so, to themselves.

This is of course a much more difficult proposition than rousing enthusiasm among the masses by taking over various national activities, ostensibly on their behalf, such as the measure of Bank nationalisation. Nevertheless, it is essential in order that such measures should yield the results that they are meant to; namely bring greater prosperity to the country, and a more equitable distribution of the national wealth and opportunities for economic advancement.

The third essential task before the Prime Minister is to restore the central position in international affairs that India has lost in recent years. She must gradually wean the country away from its dependance on foreign powers—in economics and in politics—whether of the East or the West, into which it has sunk due to various calamities, some brought on by nature, and others through its own improvidence. The clamour of the partisans of either of the two Super Powers for leaning over to either of them has to be firmly resisted, and co-operative relations developed with both of them, which would be self-respecting and independent.

She can now deal with Pakistan from a position of strength firmly but justly; but before she does that it would be well if she were herself first to deal with Kashmir. There, the first essential is administrative reform. Firm and just administration in Kashmir will transform the scene. She can then also take up our relations with China, not replying so much on what the Soviet Union thinks about them, but on what our national interests require.

If the Prime Minister, now that she has a free hand, begins to act on these lines, giving administration her first priority, she will find a response in the people, in the economy of the country, and in the estimation of the world outside, that will make her critics hang their heads in contrition, and confirm the confidence that her admirers—not only those on the streets—have placed in her, in spite of the frustration and the bleakness that they have suffered from in the past three years.

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# Blow to Congress

From Page 1, Col. 6

Mr. Sadiq Ali, made an air-dash to Imphal on Sept. 10 to resolve the crisis in the Manipur Congress but his mission was a failure.

Mr. Gambhir Singh and his supporters had then accused the Chief Minister of having failed to establish communication with party legislators and alleged discrimination in matter of development of different areas of Manipur.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was expected to bring about a rapprochement between the warring groups in the ruling party during her stay in Manipur. The ugly incidents resulting in police firing upset her entire schedule and she was forced to cancel all her engagements including an address to the Congress workers and legislators.

## SN surprised

The fall of the Congress Ministry in Manipur has come as a surprise to the Congress' President, Mr. S. Nijalingappa.

Speaking to newsmen in New Delhi this evening, Mr. Nijalingapa said Mr. Sadiq Ali had visited Imphal a few days ago and come back with the impression that all was well. That was why the fall of the Ministry seemed to be sudden.

Mr. Nijalingappa did not think that the exit of the Manipur Government had anything to do with yesterday's incidents in Imphal where the Prime Minister's public meeting was disturbed and three persons died in police action. He said some Congress leaders had met him some months ago and represented to him against the Chief Minister.

He said those who had met him had complained that the Chief Minister behaved autocratically.

Since the development had been sudden, Mr. Nijalingapa wanted time to study the situation. He would in time get reports from the PCC before that he could not talk of disciplinary action.

# SSP backing

By A Staff Reporter

BANGALORE, Sept. 24

Mr. S. Venkataram, joint secretary of SSP, in a statement today, has said the people of Manipur were fighting for full Statehood within the Indian Union and this struggle was much for the right of the people of Manipur as it was against the forces of disruption and secession which were raising their ugly head in Manipur.

Instead of conceding the demand, the repression let loose by the Government would aid the forces of disruption and anti-nationalism. He has condemned the violence preperated by the Government against the people in Manipur.

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# Dissidents bring down Congress Govt. in Manipur

Express News Service

SHILLONG, Sept. 24

**THE Congress Ministry of Manipur, headed by Chief Minister M. Koireng Singh, was today voted out of office in the Territorial Assembly.**

Nine Congress legislators, led by Mr. S. Gambhir Singh, secretary of the Legislature Congress Party, joined hands with the Opposition and facilitated the passage of a no-confidence motion against the Koireng Singh Ministry.

**Mr. Koireng Singh later called on the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Baleshwar Prasad, and submitted the resignation of his six-member Ministry.**

Mr. Prasad asked Mr. Koireng Singh to continue in office till a new government was formed. He later contacted the Union Home Ministry to inform them of the fall of the Congress Ministry in Manipur.

The no-confidence motion was moved by Mr. Ibohal Singh (CPI) of the Legislature United Front Party.

Ten Opposition members and nine Congress members voted for the motion. Eleven Congress members voted against it.

The Congress has a strength of 20 in the 32-member House.

It is for the second time in slightly less than two years that the Koireng Singh Ministry had to quit office in similar circumstances.

## *Dissension*

Mr. Singh submitted resignation of his Ministry last time on Oct. 4, 1967, after eight Congress dissidents led by Mr. Salam Singh, then the Speaker of the Territorial Assembly, joined hands with the Opposition to table a no-confidence motion against his Ministry.

Later some of the dissident Congressmen returned to the Congress fold and the United Front Ministry, headed by Mr. Longjam Thambou Singh, a dissident Congressman, had to quit.

Mr. Koiren Singh told Express News Service tonight that he had asked the pradesh Congress chief as well as the Congress High Command to take disciplinary action against the dissident Congress leaders led by Mr. Gambhir Singh.

Exit of Koireng Singh Ministry is a direct sequel to recent dissensions in the ruling Congress and the declared threat by supporters of Mr. Gambhir Singh that they would vote for a no-confidence motion against the Ministry if the Centre failed to persuade the Chief Minister to quit in favour of an alternative leader acceptable to them.

The Congress general secretary,

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# AICC meet

From Page 1, Col. 7

coalition Government in Bihar or not.

The Congress President, Mr. S. Nijalingappa, in his informal chat with newsmen said he had to change the proposed date from Sept. 30 as the Prime Minister was going to Tamil Nadu in the first week of next month. The final date had to be confirmed by her.

Mr. Nijalingappa said the State Legislature Congress Party was confident of forming a stable ministry. Asked whether the same leaders had said the same thing before Mr. Nijalingappa said he hoped that by experience the constituent units would have become wiser.

Personally he preferred a coalition government as it would avoid dissolution of the Assembly and a mid-term poll. It was upto the board to decide.

Asked whether there was a move to replace Mr. Harihar Singh as the leader of the Legislature Congress Party, Mr. Nijalingappa said he was aware of none. Mr. Singh enjoyed the support of more than two-thirds of the Congress legislators.

Would the Raja of Ramgarh also join the Ministry? Mr. Nijalingappa anticipated his support but not his joining.

The board will also discuss the development in Manipur. By then the AICC would have in its possession all the details.

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# Signature move for AICC meet

NEW DELHI, Sept. 24 (UNI)

A new move has been initiated to requisition a meeting of the All-India Congress Committee in case the Working Committee is not convened immediately to fix the date and venue of the session.

A high-level meeting of senior Cabinet Ministers yesterday decidet to get the signatures of majority of AICC members for convening an immediate meeting in Delhi.

It was revealed that 260 signatures had aleardy been secured for this purpose

The sponsors feel that they would get another 40 signatures by tomorrow. Another list of 60 signatures is expected from Maharashtra.

The signatories to the requisition meeting want that it should be held in October itself. According to the party's constitution, the Working Committee has to convene a requisition meeting within two months.

Congress President S. Nijalingappa had announced on Monday last that the Working Committee would meet in the third or the fourth week of October to fix the date and venue of the meeting. This obviously has not found favour with the requisitionists who were expecting the AICC to be convened by the end of next month.

The signature campaign for convening a meeting had started after the Presidential election. It was suspended with the hope that the AICC would in any case be convened in October.

## Bihar decision

The Congress Parliamentary Board meeting here on Oct. 6 or 7 will take a decision on whether the Congress should go in for a

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# PM sought Sangh support: Vajpayee

By A Staff Reporter

BANGALORE, Sept. 24

Mr. A. B. Vajpayee revealed here tonight that even Mrs. Indira Gandhi had talked to him seeking Jan Sangh support for the presidential candidate of her choice. He did not indicate the name of the candidate.

Addressing a public meeting, he also disclosed that Mrs. Gandhi had at first dismissed the idea of putting up both Mr. V. V. Giri and Mr. Jagjivan Ram for the presidentship.

"When I spoke to her about Mr. Giri, she said Mr. Giri is too old a man to occupy that high office and when I suggested Mr. Jagjivan Ram, she said he dabbled too much in politics," he said.

A major portion of the Sangh leader's 40-minute speech, which drew repeated cheers from the crowd, was devoted to an X-ray of the events preceding the Presidential election and a severe indictment of the Prime Minister for hobnobbing with the Communists and the Muslim "communalists" as well as had "unparalleled violation" of party discipline.

The Jan Sangh president was at pains to explain that his party was not opposed to bank nationalisation indicating a ubtle shift in his party's economic policies. While he said his party was not opposed to bank nationalisation, he also indulged in a free criticism of the Prime Minister for taking over the 14 major commercial banks and then warned the Prime Minister not to go back on this step. "I known that she is now having second thoughts on this question but once they were nationalised the people will not allow her to retract and take a reactionary stand. The common people must be benefited from this step," he said.

The way the Jan Sangh leader spelt out the economic policies of his party, a clear shift was discernible. He said that in the light of the bank take-over and the large funds passing on to Government hands it was necessary to recast the Fourth Plan. He went on to detail a number of radical steps from the land-to-the-tiller policy to give relief to educated unemployed. He also threatened a country-wide agitation if these policies were not accepted.

He minced no words when he emphasised that his party opposed both state capitalism and private capitalism without making any reference to his party's talks with the Swatantra for merger.

The sprawling Seshadripuram park adjoining the busy Swastic Circle was packed to capacity. The large crowds did not allow the Sangh leader to speak in Hindi in spite of the translations in Kannada and hence he had to speak in English and end up with a few words in Hindi.

Mr. Vajpayee, who is on his first visit to the city after the Presidential election, charged the Prime Minister with giving a communal twist to the presidential election, but at the same time accusing the Jan Sangh of whipping up communal feelings (Cheers). Then he referred to Mr. Nijalingappa's talks with him and said when the Congress President spoke to him he had sought Sangh support for the Congress party candidate. But when Mrs. Gandhi spoke to him it was to seek support for her own candidate (more cheers).

"She is only giving an ideological twist to her personal differences with party leaders," he said.

Mr. Vajpayee said originally Mrs. Gandhi was not in favour of bank nationalisation. This, he said, was clear from her own economic policy note to the Bangalore session of the AICC to which she had recommended nationalisation of just four or five major banks.

"It was only Mr. Kamaraj, Mr. Chavan and Mr. Asok Mehta who had been demanding bank take-over while she was always opposing it," he said.

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# Is Congress a tribe or caste: CR's query

MADRAS, Sept. 24 (PTI).

"Quite a few Congress leaders talk about "dying as Congressmen". If this has any meaning and is not mere rhetoric, it comes to this, that the Congress is a tribe or caste and not a political organisation", said Mr. C. Rajagopalachari.

Writing in this week's issue of "Swarajya" the Swatantra leader said, "whatever the Congress adopts as its policy, these people swear they will hold on to it irrespective of their personal convictions. This is not politics, but a new kind of casteism".

The Swatantra leader referred to Union Home Minister Chavan's latest utterances and said "the Maharashtrian leader, once chosen by Mr. Morarji Desai as fit to lead, seeks to make a difference between "discipline" and "allegiance", making out that the latter is spiritually superior to the former".

"His allegiance to the Prime Minister has triumphed over his sense of discipline", he said.

"But does not Mr. Chavan know that Mrs. Indira Gandhi is a shrewd person who knows how little she can rely on those who change over and let their friends down when the event of the battle is clearly seen? he asked.

"At any rate", he said, "those who advise the PM know how little they can trust such men, though they can be used to advantage, Mr. Rajagopalachari observed.

## Surcharge on ST

The elder statesman has suggested a surcharge on sales tax instead of lifting prohibition, for increasing Government's revenue.

The revenue from toddy and arrack sales would be got mostly from the poor, whereas a surcharge on sales tax would fall on the entire population.

He said "If the revenue is to go to the benefit of all the people, then all the people should pay for it and bear the burden, instead of taking advantage of the misery of the poor and making them pay for the advantage of the people in general".

## Govt. strategy

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari has described the recent statement about conversion of news agencies into public corporations as part of Goernment's "strategy of setting up conflicts and weakening the resistance to Government".

As in the case of bank nationalisation, the statement on news agencies had divided the employees —who welcomed the proposal— from the managements, he said.

News agencies were part of the apparatus that maintained the freedom of the Press and the present move would "shift the atmosphere to wages and conditions of work, never mind what happens to the freedom of news, in which the public is most interested", he said.

Mr. Rajagopalachari added, "we are noticing a steady escalation of the battle between the public and the Government which has the means of buying off the army of employees, who, one notes with sorrow, are these days more concerned with their own advantage than with the total national objective".

## Pledge sans truth

Referring to new pledge, he said the new pledge finalised for the Gandhi centenary meeting has no reference in it to truth or non-violence, to love or honesty or dharma. "The new pledge has the merit of being shorter. But it reads more like a political statement than a pledge to continue the mission of Gandhiji", he added.

RAJKOT: Mr. M. R. Masani, MP., today called on "believers of democracy and in India's independence" to force a broad national front, cutting across party labels and lines in face of the Communist threat in the country to those values.

Addressing a press conference here, he added that this did not mean he was suggesting merger of the parties.

The front could work for isolation of Communists, restoration of law and order and stability in the country, and for an economic programme in place of the present "discredited" policies, for speedy progress of the country.

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# Patil: Take-over not a step to socialism

BOMBAY, Sept. 24 (PTI)
Mr. S.K. Patil, MP said yesterday that in any scheme of socialism, nationalisation of any enterprise was not a "must."

Mr. Patil, who was speaking on "it is a long way to Parliamentary democracy" under the auspices of the K.C. Law College here, gave the recent nationalisation of banks as an example and said besides there being social control over banks, 41 per cent of the stocks of these nationalised banks was already in Government hands. In the circumstances there was hardly any need to nationalise the banks, he added.

NEW DELHI: The zonal council of the India Youth Congress yesterday asked the Government to implement immediately the party's 10-point programme.

The council welcomed banks nationalisation which it said had created a "healthy socialist atmosphere."

This could be sustained by nationalising key industries, foreign trade and sugar and textile industries. They also called upon the Union Government to abolish privy purses, implement land reforms and put a ceiling on urban property.

A resolution adopted by the council said unless "supporters of vested interests and bureaucracy" were crushed with full force, bank nationalisation would not produce any tangible results."

In another resolution, the council criticised the Congress party's leadership for its "failure to give a lead in bringing social justice and organise and utilise the youth in this direction."

The meeting presided over by Mr. R.K. Dwivedy, youth leader expressed its anxiety over the problem of unemployment of youth who could be useful in implementing programmes of family planning, adult education and rural development.

INDORE: Mr. I. K. Gujral, Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, said the nationalisation of 14 banks and the 10-point programme of the Congress would lead the country towards the goal of socialism. The bank nationalisation was the first step in this direction and many more bold steps might be taken before fruits of real socialism could be felt by the masses.

Addressing a Congress workers meeting here this morning Mr. Gujral said some top Congress leaders who talked about disciplinar action against the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, were themselves guilty of party indiscipline.

He said the party discipline was not the class room discipline but was a discipline of ideals and objectives. Any party member working against or challenging the party programme was liable for disciplinary action, he added.

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# CMs' panel focus on backward areas

EW DELHI, Sept. 24 (UNI).
he Chief Ministers meeting here Friday as members of a panel up by the National Develop-t Council will spotlight the blem of development in the of the findings of the two king groups on backward areas.
he panel, presided over by the uty Chairman of the Planning mission, Dr. D. R. Gadgil, discuss the reports of the fifth king groups, headed by Mr. B. Pande, Secretary of the Plan-g Commission, and Mr. N. N. nchoo, secretary, Ministry of dustrial Development and Com-y Affairs.
The working groups were set up pursuance of a decision of the mmittee of the N.D.C. in Sep-ber last. The reports will help a base to hold discussions.
The Pande committee report fixed criteria to identify industrially ckward States and the Union itories. They are: (1) Total capital income, (2) Per capita me from industry and mining, Numbers of workers in register-factories, (4) Per capita an-l consumption of electricity, (5) gth of surfaced road in relation (A) Population and (B) the ea of the State and (6) railway leage in relation to (A) The po-lation and the (B) the area of State.
As regards identification of back-rd districts in industrially-back-rd States and Union territories, Pande group recommended the lowing: (1) Districts outside a dius of about 50 miles from large ties or industrial projects, (2) verty of the people as indicated low per capita income starting m the lowest to 25 per cent be-w the State average, (3) High density of population in relation totalisation of productive resources and employment opportunities as indicated by (I) Low percentage of population engaged in secondary and tertiary activities, (II) Low percentage of factory employment and (C) Non and/or under utilisation of economic and natural resources like minerals, forest, (4) Adequate availability of electric power or likelihood of its availability within one-two years, (5) Availability of transport and communication facilities and (6) Adequate availability of water or likelihood of available during 1-2 years.

The Wanchoo group, which had the procedural, financial and fiscal incentives to be given, to backward areas as its terms of reference recommended six fiscal incentives to entrepreneures to set up industries in selected backward areas.

The six fiscal incentives recommended by the Wanchoo committee are:

(1) Grant of higher development rebate to industries located in backward areas, (2) Grant of exemption from income, including corporate tax, for five years after providing for the development rebate, (3) Exemption from the payment of import duties on plant and machinery, components, etc., imported by units set up in backward areas, (4) Exemption from excise duties for a period of five years, (5) Exemption from sales tax, both on raw materials and finished products, to units set up in specified backward areas for a period of five years and (6) Transport subsidy.

The Wanchoo committee also recommended certain 'disincentives' for avoiding overcrowding of industries in the already industrialised areas.

DECCAN HERALD
25/9/1969.

# Notice issued to Nijalingappa

ALLAHABAD, Sept. 24.— The Munsiff, East Allahabad, yesterday issued notices to Congress President Nijalingappa, Mr. S. K. Patil, Mr. K. Kamaraj, Mr. Morarji Desai and Mr. Atulya Ghosh, members of the Congress Working Committee of a suit filed by two Congress workers of Allahabad, praying that they be restrained from interfering with the affairs of the Congress Party.

The plaintiffs — Messrs. Ramjilal and Premchand — submitted that they were old Congress members and were interested in the purity of the organisation and upholding the integrity and unity of the party.

The counsel for the plaintiffs, Mr. Girish Chandra, alleged that the opposite parties, who had formed a clique in the Congress Working Committee known as "Syndicate" in collusion with certain capitalists against the interests of the party and the policy of the All-India Congress Committee, were out to disrupt the Congress and were losing the confidence of the people.—PTI.

THE ECONOMIC TIMES
25/9/1969.

## *Tamil Nadu*

# A strategic victory for Indira Gandhi

Will Mr. Kamaraj follow the Chavan way and come out openly in support of the Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi?

This is the question uppermost in the minds of Congress workers here who had been itching for a factional fight and show of strength during the ensuing three-day visit of Mrs. Gandhi to Tamil Nadu. They were almost taken unawares of by the sudden air-dash of their leader to Delhi for talks with Mrs. Gandhi last week end.

Even to Mr. Kamaraj, the invitation from the Prime Minister was like a bolt from the blue. It was Thursday when the telephone in Mr. Kamaraj's residence in Theagaraya Nagar rang and it was Mrs. Indira Gandhi unexpectedly calling from Delhi at the right psychological moment when Congress workers were debating about the kind of reception to be given to the Prime Minister against the background of post-Bangalore session of events and the cold attitude of their leader towards the Prime Minister. It was the first time that Mrs. Gandhi told him personally that she was coming down South for a tour. There were some issues to be sorted out and telephone was not the proper vehicle of communication. And so it happened Mr. Kamaraj made the trip to New Delhi.

### *Psychological impact*

Apart from the deep implications which the one-hour Kamaraj-Indira meeting holds out for the future—this is the first time after the Bangalore session that the two had a discussion at such length—Mrs. Gandhi's gesture has already had a tremendous psychological impact on Tamilnad Congressmen and Mr. Kamaraj. Almost immediately on return from New Delhi, Mr. Kamaraj called his followers and appealed to them to give a fitting reception to Mrs. Gandhi.

Before his dialogue at Delhi, there were serious doubts whether Mr. Kamaraj, in his present mood, would extend his co-operation to make Mrs. Gandhi's visit a success and if his followers would boycott her or create embarrassing situations. These are not to be and it can now be stated that Mr. Kamaraj himself might accompany the Prime Minister to one or two centres.

The air has been cleared and Mrs. Gandhi is assured of an unprecedented welcome in which not only Congressmen but also the ruling D.M.K. and leftist parties are expected to participate with great enthusiasm. Separate meetings between the Prime Minister and Congress workers are being arranged by the Tamilnad Congress president, Mr. C. Subramaniam to give an opportunity to the Prime Minister to get Congressmen's support for her policies.

*By S. Vasudevan.*
Madras Bureau

The Prime Minister's gesture made at the initiative of Mr. Subramaniam and some of her close friends has thus turned out to be a strategic victory for Mrs. Gandhi. Leaders who are associated with the goings-on in New Delhi interpret Mrs. Gandhi's latest move as part of a grant strategy to enlist the support of leaders with known progressive views. The strategy has worked well with Mr. Chavan and the process has started in the case of Kamaraj.

There are already signs of a perceptible change in the attitude and tone of Congress party workers. One of the pro-Kamaraj Congress vernacular dailies which till yesterday had been indulging in a virulent campaign of hatred against Mrs. Gandhi and Mr. C. Subramaniam has begun to talk in terms of the inevitable emergence of Indira-Chavan-Kamaraj axis to advance the cause of socialism.

### *No indication*

But Mr. Kamaraj is not expected to react immediately and give indication of a change in his attitude. He is known to be one with the Prime Minister on the ideological plane but he has gathered a bundle of grievances over the years since the devaluation of the rupee. It is an open secret that he has been a severe critic of the Prime Minister, though he did not care to carry his criticism to the public platform.

Even after the Bangalore session he has not been attacking the Prime Minister personally but only raising slogans like "democracy in danger" "cry a halt to indiscipline," "perils of dictatorship".

But his main quarrel with Mrs. Gandhi seems to be that she is not vigorously implementing the ten-point programme of the Congress. He is very happy that the Prime Minister had nationalised the banks, though belatedly. But the point of his dissatisfaction is that nationalisation should have been preceded by a well-thought-out plan. He is particular that there should be effective follow-up action to bank nationalisation. He seems to be keen that nationalisation of banks should be immediately followed by state take-over of food grains trade. Unless this was done the benefits of nationalisation of banks would not flow to the farmers. Mr. Kamaraj is known to favour a scheme by which loans to farmers and repayment should be in kind.

### *Property ceiling*

He attaches importance to the speedy implementation of the other items in the ten-point programme of the Congress, particularly fixation of a ceiling on urban property. He seems to be sore that so far no study has been initiated in this regard. At least a beginning should be made with the fixation of ceiling on urban property in major cities.

Mr. Kamaraj is understood to have given his views on current political and economic situation to Mrs. Gandhi who is expected to continue the discussions both during and after her visit to Tamil Nadu. It is, however, premature to hazard a guess that Mr. Kamaraj will definitely follow the example of Mr. Chavan.

While piping down criticism against Mrs. Gandhi the Kamaraj camp is keeping up the tempo of the demand for the exit of Mr. Subramaniam from the Tamilnad Congress. The initiative taken by him in co-operation with some of Mrs. Gandhi's friends has definitely improved the image of Mr. Subramaniam in Tamilnad politics but how far the changing atmosphere will have an impact on the warring factions in the Tamilnad Congress is too early to say. Just for the present, the two groups will bide their time till the Prime Minister completes her tour of Tamil Nadu. The issues will crop up again at a meeting of the Working Committee of the Tamilnad Congress which will precede a full meeting of the TNCC by the middle of next month.

THE MAIL
25/9/1969.

# THE POLITICS OF COMMITMENT

## Principles & Personalities

By MOHAN DARIA, M. P.

(BASED ON AN INTERVIEW)

cracy, the Prime Minister repre- nts not only his or her party ut the country as a whole. Na- rally, from the point of view of administering the affairs of he country, the head of a politi- cal party cannot be compared with the head of Government.

The right of the Prime Minister or the Chief Minister to have a Cabinet of his or her choice and confidence must remain unfettered; any interference from the party head is bound to create complications harmful to the functioning of parliamentary institutions. It has, therefore, become absolutely essential that the position and dignity of both the offices is maintained and that the incumbents work in coordination with each other without any mutual interference.

### In the U. K.

In the U.K., the leader of the Conservative or the Liberal party, when the party is in power, is the Prime Minister himself. The conditions in our country, however, are quite different. There are 17 States and several Union territories in India and it is now clear that one party rule will be difficult in future both at the Centre and in the States. For this purpose separate presidents for the party other than the Prime Minister or the Chief Ministers are necessary at the Central and State levels.

Besides, manifold parliamentary and administrative responsibilities of the Prime Minister or the Chief Ministers, do not permit them to spend enough time for orgonisational purposes, and hence it is not advisable to have the same head both for the organisation and for the administration. Moreover, the different representative characters of the two offices may create awkward situations on many occasions.

I, therefore, feel that the solution (as suggested by some people in the party) to have the same person for both the offices will not be proper. The real way out is to clarify and define the jurisdiction, duties and responsibilities of the two offices, bearing in mind the experience of the past as well as the conventions set up in the democratic countries having parliamentary institutions In fact the functions of both these offices are necessarily supplementary and complementary to each other.

The question of personalities always arises in democratic functioning. It has, however, become much more obvious in the Congress Party. The gradual shifting of emphasis from the party's ideologies and programmes to the personalities has added a new significance to this controversy in the Congress Party.

The Congress Party acquired power with a sense of dedication and service and the party looked at "power" as an effective instrument of social and economic transformation. Unfortunately, however this aspect was gradually lost sight of and, as per my information, there are some leaders who are interested in retaining power even at the cost of sacrificing the higher ideals and aims of the Congress Party. Power has gone into their heads so much so that they are not in a position to think of the previous role and the glorious history of the Congress and the duties cast on them by the party. These are the leaders whose minds are obsessed with lust for power and who have been doing great harm to the Congress Party and also to our parliamentary democracy.

**As a matter of fact, the party stands for principles and not for few personalities. It stands for the fulfilment of the pledged programmes and not for the fulfilment of ambitions of a few handful at the cost of the principles of the party. I strongly feel that the time has come in the history of the Congress Party when it should take a firm approach in this regard. It should not allow any personality in the party to use the party machinery for the benefit of self at the cost of high ideals cherished by the organisation.**

### Exit Old Guards

I may also suggest here that the old guards of the party who have remained in power at high posts in the organisation, should now retire gracefully. From my little experience I can say that many of the old leaders have lost touch with the new world. It is impossible for them to be in tune with and to keep pace with the fast changing modern world. A voluntary decision, therefore, by the old guards to that effect will pave the way for purposeful endeavours by the younger and more enthusiastic persons in the organisation and would inculcate new dynamism and vigour in the party.

If such voluntary retirement does not take place (and I am sure it will not), there is no other choice but to replace the old guards with new blood committed to the party ideology and having faith in the "politics of commitment". Similar shall have to be the approach against those who may be young in years but who have no faith in the progressive ideology of the Party. This, in fact, is the only way to avoid unpricipled conflicts among personalities in the party.

### New Approach

During the last six months, the Congress has definitely come out with a new approach. Some of us have in fact been interested in such an approach since 1967. It is a matter of great satisfaction that most of the leaders of the party, including the Prime Minister, have accepted this approach of "politics of commitment". Major decisions on economic matters such as the nationalisation of 14 major banks have regained the faith of the common man in the Party and the follow-up action on the basis of our programmes will again make the Congress the People's Party.

The new role of the party has given a setback both to the conservative and the Leftist parties in the country. Now the reactionary parties like the Jan Sangh and the Swatantra who were trying to mobilise people in the name of nationalism, religion or culture, by taking aydantage of the agonies of people with the help of big monopolies and their newspapers commanding vast circulation, will not be able to mislead the people. If the relief from the new economic measures reaches the common man, the constant attack of these parties on the public sector and their criticism of the Government's handling of economic matters, would bear no fruit. The bogie of Communist dictatorship raised by the reactionaries would be effectively met with not by force but by meeting the genuine grievances and agonies of the downtrodden people.

As regards the Left-oriented parties, the new economic measures introduced and envisaged by the Congress Party have taken away the winds out of their sales. Besides, their internal differences on petty matters have exposed them enough. Some of the utterances of big leaders of the Opposition parties, which are quite derogatory to the constitutional functioning in the country, have further shaken the faith of their sympathisers who believe in the system of parliamentary democracy.

The Congress has thus attracted with their new measures, thousands of minds and eyes of the people (particularly of the younger generation) who are interested in establishing democratic socialism in the country.—FPS.

DECCAN HERALD
25/9/1969.

# Pak role in riots must be exposed: Vajpayee

BANGALORE, Sept. 24.

Jan Sangh President A. B. Vajpayee demanded here today a thorough enquiry into the role of Pakistani agents in the communal riots in Ahmedabad.

He also wanted every political party in the country to do some introspection to find out why minor incidents involving two communities should lead to arson and destruction on a large scale.

Addressing a largely attended public meeting in Seshadripuram Mr. Vajpayee expressed deep distress at the happenings in Ahmedabad.

Strongly condemning the arrest of a Jan Sangh leader in this connection, he said it was in keeping with the usual tactics of the Government to arrest persons belonging to majority community whenever there was communal trouble. It had become a fashion with the ruling Congress Party and some other parties to blame the Jan Sangh for all the communal troubles.

Mr. Vajpayee, who spoke in Hindi and English as desired by the audience, dealt with a wide range of subjects from the recent Presidential contest to his party's approach to national integration and socio-economic reconstruction.

Strongly refuting the charges of communalism against the Jan Sangh, Mr. Vajpayee accused other parties, particularly the Congress and the Communists, of inciting communal passion as a vote catching device.

"We want to maintain communal harmony. At the same time, we insist on absolute loyalty to the country from every member of the minority community," he declared.

His party did not believe in dividing the people into majority and minority groups nor did it approve of the idea of showing undue favour to a particular community in the guise of national integration. In a secular democracy, every citizen had equal rights and obligations.

## EQUAL RIGHTS

Mr. Vajpayee made it clear that while the minority communities had equal rights, they should also be prepared to share equal responsibilities and should identify themselves with the main current of social life in the country.

He was convinced that common people among the Muslims in the country wanted to live in peace. But their leaders did not allow them to do so. They were playing into the hands of foreign powers who were interested in creating disorder in India.

In this context he urged the Central Government to take serious note of the communal propaganda that was being carried out by Urdu press in the country.

He also warned the people against the tie-up between Muslim communalists and Communists who were using every conceivable opportunity to create internal disorder to serve the purpose of their foreign masters (Pakistan and China).

Referring to the Presidential election, Mr. Vajpayee criticised the role of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in securing the defeat of her own party's nominee. This was unprecedented in the history of parliamentary democracy in the world.

He said that before the selection of the Congress candidate for Presidentship, the Prime Minister had discussed the question with him. At that stage, she was not in favour of Mr. V. V. Giri as, according to her, he was "too old" to shoulder the responsibility. The Prime Minister was also against selecting Food Minister Jagjivan Ram since he was "too much involved" in active politics.

All the while, Mr. Vajpayee said, the Prime Minister was soliciting the support of the Jan Sangh for the candidate chosen by her and sarcastically remarked that if Congress President

Nijalingappa sought the support of the Jan Sangh for the candidate chosen by the party that became a big crime.

He said bank nationalisation was done not because the Prime Minister had any faith in it, but because she wanted to justify the "summary dismissal" of Deputy Prime Minister Morarji Desai.

Mr. Vajpayee said the Jan Sangh was not opposed to bank nationalisation as such. It always favoured State control over basic industries, exploitation of oil and mineral wealth and also credit agencies. The State had to step into all these sectors as a competitor and not as a monopolist.

The Jan Sangh was critical of the recent bank take-over because by nationalising 14 major banks, the Government had established near monopoly in credit authority.

Following bank nationalisation, the Fourth Plan would have to be redrafted to achieve the objective of employment to every able bodied person and agriculturists, small industrialists and all other self-employed persons should be helped by a liberal credit policy. Land reform legislation would have to be implemented energetically.

He said the Jan Sangh stood for minimising the gap between the requirements of the people and achievements of the Government and for building up an egalitarian society on the principles of democracy, secularism and socialism.

Earlier, Mr. Gundaiah Setty, President of the city Jan Sangh, welcomed the gathering. Mr. Rama Jois proposed a vote of thanks.

DECCAN HERALD
25/9/1969.

# US envoy's praise for Mrs Gandhi's policies

NEW YORK, Sept. 24.—Mr. Kenneth Keating, U.S. Ambassador to India, has hailed the economic policies of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi as the only way to prevent a takeover by either the Communists, the right-wing or military, the New York Times said today.

Mr. Keating, who replaced Mr. Chester Bowles as Ambassador three months ago, was speaking in an interview in Srinagar, with the newspaper's correspondent Sydney H. Schanberg.

The Times said the U.S. Envoy's praise of Mrs. Gandhi seemed certain to irk some U.S. State Department officials and members of Congress, who believe she is leaning towards Communism in her policy of Democratic Socialism and nationalisation of banks.

"I would not approve of bank nationalisation for the United States," Mr. Keating said.

"But in India if the Government is not ready to go the left of centre and show regard for the needs of the great masses of people, this could be the very seed that could cause a revolution.

"It could lead first to a Communist Government and then, perhaps in reaction, to a possible military takeover."

Mr. Keating described Mrs. Gandhi as a firm believer in free Government and free elections. "I see a great distinction between Socialism and Communism."

He said he believed Mrs. Gandhi was attempting to achieve "a middle ground that is going to be left of what we call middle ground."—Reuter.

DECCAN HERALD
25/4/1969.

# *Mr. CITIZEN*

(By MURTHY)

**I entirely agree with you, Nijalingappaji! I'm sure you meant Party leadership!**

THE HINDU
25/9/1969

# New Signature Campaign for Early A.I.C.C. Session

From G. K. Reddy

NEW DELHI, Sept. 24.

A new signature campaign has been initiated by the Prime Minister's supporters to requisition a special session of the AICC if the Congress President, Mr. S. Nijalingappa, does not convene a meeting of the Working Committee soon to fix the date and venue for it.

A number of senior Cabinet Ministers met privately yesterday to launch this campaign for an early meeting of the AICC to carry forward the still unresolved struggle for the control of the party organisation in the wake of the recent power struggle.

According to the revised Congress constitution, a special meeting of the AICC can be requisitioned by not less than 20 per cent of the total membership of the committee. The requisitionists must, therefore, collect at least 152 signatures out of the total of 756 members, but they claim to have secured already 260 signatures for the purpose. The Working Committee must call a meeting of the AICC within two months of such a requisition.

**UNITY RESOLUTION**

The ostensible purpose of the proposed special session of the AICC is to discuss the recent Unity Resolution and endorse the steps taken by the Government to implement the party's 10-point programme. But the Unity Resolution is as good as buried, since the cold war inside the Congress Party has started hotting up again.

Though the Prime Minister's supporters started collecting signatures immediately after the last Working Committee meeting for requisitioning a special AICC session, Mrs. Gandhi asked them to call off the campaign for the time being, since she did not want tension to build up again so soon after the last confrontation. But, according to her close associates, she has been disappointed with the behaviour of the party bosses, who by and large do not seem to have reconciled themselves to their defeat in the Presidential election and were clearly biding their time for a fresh trial of strength.

**P.M. UNHAPPY OVER 'CRISIS' IN TNCC**

Mrs. Gandhi is reported to be quite unhappy over the new crisis developing in the Tamil Nadu Congress Committee and the renewed efforts of the Syndicate to force a change of leadership of the Andhra Pradesh Government. She is equally annoyed with the continued defiance of Mr. C. B. Gupta in U.P. and the general attitude of non co-peration, if not of open hostility by the supporters of the Syndicate in the other States.

Even otherwise, the Prime Minister's advisers feel that it is necessary to take early steps to correct the prevailing impression both in India and abroad that Mrs Gandhi does not enjoy the support of the party organisation. They are arguing that, while she is quite comfortably placed with the Congress Parliamentary Party to continue in power till 1972, it is not in the larger interests of the country to let the impression prevail that the Governmental and organisational wings are at loggerheads and working at cross-purposes over all major issues of policy. So they want to put an end to this abnormal situation by capturing the party organisation.

The Prime Minister's supporters claim to have already either mobilised or obtained promises of support of at least 350, and possibly 400 members, in the AICC for a showdown with the Syndicate. Their present intention is to try to overthrow Mr. Nijalingappa and install one of their men as the next Congress President, before stepping up pressures for the reconstitution of the Working Commmittee and Parliamentary Board. Once this "bloodless coup" is complete, the road will be clear for progressively weeding out all the doubtful elements at the lower levels, so that the ruling group could face the next general election with its own trusted candidates.

**IMPONDERABLES**

Whether this ambitious plan of action would work or not is a matter of pure speculation at this stage, since there are so many imponderables in the present situation. It is extremely difficult for anybody to foresee clearly how various power alignments in the Congress would function in the event of another major crisis in the party. But a major encouraging factor from the point of view of the Prime Minister's supporters has been the deep fissures that have lately developed among the Syndicate leaders as a result of personal suspicions and policy contradictions between them and the growing disenchantment of the rank and file with the old guard which no longerer inspires the necessary confidence in them that it would be able to survive another major confrontation.

They want to have the special AICC session before the end of October; if possible and in any case not later than November when Parliament meets for the winter session, and if all goes well at this AICC session, they hope to proceed with the next plan of action for convening a convention of all the Congress Members of Parliament and the State Legislatures to establish once for all the supremacy of the Governmental wing over the party organisation.

THE HINDU
25/9/1969.

# *Nijalingappa Pained at Manipur Events*

**From Our Special Correspondent**

NEW DELHI, Sept. 24.

Mr. S. Nijalingappa, Congress President, said he was very sorry and pained at the turn of events in Manipur resulting in the fall of the Congress Government in the Union Territory.

Giving his reaction to the defeat of the Congress Government in Manipur, Mr. Nijalingappa said that he was hoping that the differences among the Congressmen in the State would be settled to the satisfaction of all. Unfortunately, this did not happen. He said, he would shortly be contacting the P.C.C. chief in Manipur and also the defeated Chief Minister to get first hand information of the events.

It may be mentioned in this connection that for the last four months serious complaints have been received by the Congress High Command from Manipur against some of the actions of the Chief Minister. But no effort was made to patch up the differences.

It was only a few days ago that the Congress Secretary, Mr. Sadiq Ali, visited Manipur and conferred with local Congressmen. He returned to Delhi fully convinced that all was well with the Party and there would be no trouble. To-day's events, however, show that the impression gained by the Congress Secretary was not correct.

Actually, Mr. Nijalingappa was surprised when he was told of the news about the fall of the Congress Ministry for he too was under the impression that the Ministry would continue, especially after the talks which Mr. Sadiq Ali had at Manipur.

It is believed that yesterday's incidents in Imphal leading to police firing at a public meeting addressed by the Prime Minister were also responsible for to-day's discomfiture of the Congress Ministry.

It is stated that Mrs. Indira Gandhi's firm declaration that she would not be cowed down by the agitators into accepting their demand for Statehood for Manipur also provoked some of the Congressmen to vote with the Opposition for the no-confidence motion in the Assembly.

THE HINDU
25/8/1969.

# U.S. Envoy Hails P.M.'s Economic Policies

NEW YORK, Sept. 24.

Mr. Kenneth Keating, the United States Ambassador to India, has hailed the economic policies of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi as the only way to prevent a take-over by either the Communists, the right-wing or military. The New York Times said to-day.

Mr. Keating was speaking in an interview in Srinagar, with the newspaper's correspondent.

The Times said the U.S. envoy's praise of Mrs. Gandhi seemed certain to irk some U.S. State Department officials and members of Congress, who believe she is leaning towards Communism in her policy of Democratic Socialism and nationalisation of banks.

"I would not approve of bank nationalisation for the United States," Mr. Keating said.

"But in India if the Government is not ready to go the left of centre and show regard for the needs of the great masses of people, this could be the very seed that could cause a revolution.

"It could lead first to a Communist Government and then, perhaps in reaction, to a possible military take-over," he said.

Mr. Keating described Mrs. Gandhi as a firm believer in free Government and free elections. "I see a great distinction between Socialism and Communism."

He said he believed Mrs. Gandhi was attempting to achieve "a middle ground that is going to be left of what we call middle ground." —Reuter.

TIMES OF INDIA
25/9/1969.

# "CONSCIENCE" VOTERS WRECK MANIPUR GOVT.

# Rebel MLAs demand change in leadership

IMPHAL, September 24.

THE eight-month-old Koireng Singh Ministry of the Union Territory of Manipur was voted out of office today as nine members of the ruling Congress joined hands with the Opposition.

**Mr. Koireng Singh submitted his resignation to the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Baleswar Prasad, immediately after the adverse vote in the Assembly, which began its session on Sunday last.**

He was asked to continue in office as a care-taker Chief Minister until alternative arrangements could be made.

The Ministry's defeat came within hours of the departure of the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, after a day's visit to Imphal.

The voting was 19 votes to 11. The Congress has a strength of 20 in the 32-member House.

**REBEL'S STAND**

Mr. Salam Gambhir Singh, secretary of the Congress Legislative Party of Manipur, said although the Council of Ministers led by Mr. M. Koireng Singh had been voted down, it did not mean that the Congress members, who exercised their right of 'conscience vote' were against the Congress Party.

He said these members were against theleadership of Mr. Koireng Singh. He sadi his group would support the Government formed by any able Congressmen except Mr. Koireng Singh.

Mr. Koireng Singh told newsmen that he had taken a serious view of the crossing of floor by some Congress members.—U.N.I.

PTI adds: The no-confidence motion was moved by Mr. Ibohal Singh (CPI) of the United Front Legislature Party.

TIMES OF INDIA
25/9/1969.

# NO CURB LIKELY IN FLOW OF FUNDS TO PRIVATE SECTOR

**"The Times of India" News Service**

NEW DELHI, September 24.

THE deputy chairman of the Planning Commission, Dr. D. R. Gadgil, does not expect a curtailment in the flow of resources to the private sector from public financial institutions or the nationalised banks.

This was the impression Dr. Gadgil gave leading industrialists who met him and other members of the Planning Commission today for talks on the draft Fourth Plan.

Dr. Gadgil could not, however, affirm that there would be no change at all in the credit policies of public financial institutions. But as of date he was confident that they would operate "more or less in the same way as before."

Dr. Gadgil conceded that there could be doubts in this regard because of the recent policy changes. The whole policy of the Government was also yet to be made clear. But from the utterances of Government leaders, it was evident that there was no need to fear "inadequacy of resources" for the planned industrial development of the country.

The meeting was attended by 26 prominent industrialists and representatives of chambers of commerce and industry, financial institutions and the Planning Commission.

### FEELING OF UNCERTAINTY

Speaking on behalf of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Mr. G. M. Modi welcomed Dr. Gadgil's hopeful note in regard to the continued availability of resources for the private sector from public financial institutions and the nationalised banks.

Several industrialists underlined the need to reassure industry of a steady flow of credit to remove the current feeling of uncertainty created by the recent Government policies and programmes.

The consensus was that while the pre-requisites for industrial growth existed, there was a lack of certain growth factors, such as a clear policy in regard to financial assistance to the private sector. It was suggested that this situation should be remedied.

The industrialists also expressed their views on the Dutt Committee report on licensing, the proposal to set up an industrial prices commission, export incentives and the Plan frame.

### PRICE CONTROL

The general view on the licensing committee's report was that it was not in conformity with the scheme of delicensing and the liberalisation of licensing policies envisaged in the Plan document. Most of the participants thought the Planning Commission's approach was right and did not favour the line taken by the Dutt Committee.

On prices, they were not opposed to price control as such but wanted that this should be resorted to only in respect of commodities in short supply. Further, price determination should be made in "a reasonable manner" and must allow for adequate profits for industry.

The industrialists also stressed that the current obsession over the size of business houses should go. The criterion should be production and not the size of any particular group. As regards exports they said the present scheme of incentives was well-conceived. They felt, however, that there were delays in its implementation.

On the draft Plan, there was a general endorsement of the policy frame for the private sector. The deputy chairman told the meeting that the commission envisaged "indicating planning" for the private sector, but he did not mention any figures of the outlay in this sector.

Dr. Gadgil, however, sought more detailed information on development in the private sector so that "indicating planning" could be made more elaborate in the Fourth and operative annual Plans.

Dr. Gadgil said he would be glad to hold regular consultations and arrange for discussions with industrialists and industrial organisations so as to help in furthering the work of those industrialists and organisations which were formulating development schemes on a long-term basis.

He felt that it was essential to establish regular channels for the flow of information between the commission and industrial organisations, as the commission was deeply interested in realistic planning not only for the public but also for the private sector.

TIMES OF INDIA
25/9/1969.

# PM & Congress chief must moot talks, says Patil

**By A Staff Reporter**

THE best remedy to end the rumblings within the Congress, according to Mr. S. K. Patil, is that the High Command or the Parliamentary Board should meet informally at the joint invitation of the Congress President and the Prime Minister and "patch up the differences."

In an exclusive interview with The Times of India in Bombay on Wednesday, he said: "These rumblings do create factions and ultimately weaken the organisation. Somebody must halt this process.

"The dialogue which has been interrupted must be immediately resumed. This is not asking too much of the Prime Minister."

**Mr. S. K. Patil**

About his stand at the crucial meeting of the Congress Working Committee after the Presidential election, Mr. Patil said: "My stand was not different from that of my colleagues. All of us knew that a positive act of indiscipline was committed and some kind of a disciplinary action was called for but in the larger interests of the organisation and the country as well, we had decided earlier not to take any action."

Asked to clarify who included the "we", he said: "The majority of friends."

He said: "We passed two resolutions at that meeting. The most important resolution was the first brief one."

This resolution said that the allegations against the Congress President, Mr. Nijalingappa, in the Presidential election were made on wrong assumptions and were untenable.

"This resolution knocked the bottom out of the case of the Prime Minister and her colleagues", Mr. Patil said.

He asserted that he had not changed his stand at the last moment. "The friends who generally voted together had decided earlier that no action should be taken. Therefore, there need not be any surprise at my attitude. There was no last-minute change in it."

Commenting on the expression "roar" which he is supposed to have used, Mr. Patil said: "The word 'roar' was not used by me in any formal interview. I was talking to a friend and somebody must have heard the talk and used it as a press interview."

### WRONG MUST BE RIGHTED

Regarding the issue of Mr. Morarji Desai rejoining the Cabinet, Mr. Patil said: "This is now a mere academic issue. The wrong has to be righted. There is no doubt that Mr. Morarji Desai felt the insult. The treatment meted out to him was not the treatment that the Prime Minister accords to the Deputy Prime Minister.

"I believe that Mr. Morarji Desai may not accept the position he has relinquished even if he was requested to do so by the Prime Minister. The question is that the bitterness should be removed. That can be done by the Prime Minister calling Mr. Morarji Desai and having a friendly talk with him."

Commenting on some statements made by the Prime Minister and Congress leaders, he said: "I am afraid there have been too many statements these days. For some time I would suggest a moratorium on controversial statements. They serve no purpose. It appears whosoever disagrees with the Prime Minister she is quick to call hm a reactionary. Even she may be a reactionary in the eyes of those who want a completely communist programme. These are relative terms and need not be used so cheaply."

When the dialogue continues, he said, he had hopes that unity would be restored.